



ESTABLISHED 1850

CITY OF VACAVILLE

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July 11, 2018

Honorable John B. Ellis, Presiding Judge
Solano County Superior Court, Department 23
Hall of Justice
600 Union Avenue, Room 306
Fairfield, CA 94533

Re: City of Vacaville Response to 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report, "Code Enforcement"

Dear Judge Ellis:

The following is the City of Vacaville's response to the Grand Jury Report regarding Code Enforcement.

Finding 1: *City Code Enforcement Departments generally seek voluntary code compliance.*

Response to Finding 1: The City of Vacaville agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1: *Cities continue instituting fines as a last resort to achieve compliance.*

Response to Recommendation 1: Vacaville's Code Enforcement personnel will continue to make all efforts to gain voluntary compliance for municipal code violations and will only impose fines as a last measure to gain compliance.

Finding 2: *The majority of municipal code enforcement is reactive rather than proactive and relies on citizens to report suspected code violations.*

Response to Finding 2: The City of Vacaville agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 2a: *Municipal Code Enforcement Officers become more proactive in identifying and educating the public on code violations (i.e. Coffee with Code Enforcement).*

Response to Recommendation 2a: The City of Vacaville has been proactive by implementing the Neighborhood Team ("N-Team"). The N-Team is comprised of city staff from various departments and its purpose is to address quality of life issues within the City. The N-Team has organized and conducted several neighborhood clean-ups; where the team has identified areas of the City that would benefit from a one-day clean-up.

Additionally, code enforcement in Vacaville is in the Fire Department. The Vacaville Fire Department has a robust public outreach/education program. Code enforcement personnel are often involved in public outreach and distribute informational material specific to code enforcement at these outreach events.

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Recommendation 2b: *Work with refuse companies to inform the public of additional programs.*

Response to Recommendation 2b: The City of Vacaville's Code Enforcement Section has a strong working relationship with Recology. In fact, the N-Team partners with Recology to conduct neighborhood clean-up events at least twice a year.

Finding 4: *City of Vallejo has a pamphlet, "Neighborhood Resource Brochure" detailing resources for citizens to refer to concerning code enforcement issues.*

Response to Finding 4: The City of Vacaville agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 4: *City Code Enforcement officials of all cities consider developing a comprehensive brochure using Vallejo's "Neighborhood Resource Brochure" as a prototype to better inform citizens of available resources.*

Response to Recommendation 4: Vacaville does not have a comprehensive brochure regarding code enforcement, but it does have several informational fliers regarding specific code sections, such as weed abatement requirements, public nuisance reporting, garbage tote requirements, etc. Information about code enforcement is also available on the City of Vacaville's website, on the Fire Department page.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Jeremy T. Craig
City Manager